

AN  
ORDINANCE  
OF THE  
LORDS and COMMONS  
Assembled in PARLIAMENT,

For the Contribution of the value of  
one MEALE in the WEEKE,

Towards the charge of Arming and forming into  
Regiments the Auxiliary Forces, now in rayling  
within the City of *London* and Lines of  
Communication.

And for the better execution of the severall  
Ordinances of the MILITIA within these parts  
and places, according to the Tenor of  
the same Ordinances.

With the Names of the Treasurers of the  
severall Divisions.

Die Martis, 26. Martii, 1644.

**O** Rdered by the Lords assembled in Parliament, that this  
Ordinance be forthwith printed and published.  
J. Brown Cler. Parliamentorum.

LONDON,  
Printed for *Iohn Wright* in the Old-baily,  
May, 16. 1644.

· '84.1707



An Ordinance of Parliament, for the Contribution of the value of one Meale in the week, towards the charge of arming and forming into Regiments the Auxiliary forces now in rayſing within the lines of Communication ; And for the better execution of the ſeverall Ordinances of the *Militia* within theſe parts and places, according to the tenor of the ſame Ordinances.



Hereas the Committee for the *Militia* of *London*, have for the better diſcharge of the great truſt in them repoſed (according to ſeverall Ordinances of Parliament inabling them thereunto) authorized ſeverall Sub Committees, to put in execution within the Cities of *London* and *Westmiſter*, Hamlets of the *Tower*, and the Borough of *Southwarke* and other the parts adjacent, within the weekly Bills of Mortality, the ſeverall Ordinances heretofore made for ordering the *Militia* of thoſe parts and places ; the ſpeedy and due effecting whereof, will not onely much eaſe and relieve the Trained and Auxiliary hands of the places aforeſaid, now much over-burdened with duty, but will alſo by Gods bleſſing upon the ſame apparently tend to the better ſafe-guard of thoſe places, and preſervation of this preſent Parliament, under God the chiefe Bulwark and conſerver of our Religion, Lawes, and Liberties : And whereas, beſides other voluntary Contributions, a chiefe meane of rayſing and forming of the Auxiliary Regiments already rayſed in the places afore ſpecified, hath beene the voluntary forbearance of one Meale in the weeke, and rendring the value of the ſame for the purpoſe aforeſaid, which being begun by wel-affectd perſons, is conceived may be of ſpeciall uſe, for rayſing more Forces, buying of Armes and Ammunition, and accompliſhing

complishing the intent of the said Ordinances, if convenient power be added to make that way of Contribution generall, and so as the burthen may not rest alone upon the willing party.

The Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, taking the premisses into their serious consideration, and being sensible of the good service already performed to the State, by the Forces of the City and places aforesaid, and well approving of the continuance of the good endeavours of the said Committee, and of their Sub-Committees, whereto they conceive it requisite to give all fitting assistance and encouragement, and holding it very just and reasonable that all persons according to their abilities, should in a reasonable and proportionable way contribute to the supporting of that charge and burden, which is necessarily to be undergone for the common safety, do for the better speeding and perfecting of the said work, thinke fit to Order and Ordaine, And bee it Ordained, Declared, and established as followeth: That all and every person and persons, and their Families residing or Inhabiting within the said Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, the Hamlets of the *Tower*, Borough of *Southwark*, and other the Parishes and places within the Lines of Communication and weekly bills of Mortality, shall pay and contribute upon each Tuesday weekly, the value of one ordinary Meale, to such person and persons as shall be respectively appointed Collector or Collectors thereof, in such sort as is after mentioned, the same to be employed for the ends and purposes before specified, and hereafter mentioned; And for the better Ordering, Rating, and Rayling the said Monies, It is further Ordered and Ordained; That the Alderman, Aldermans Deputy, and Common-councill-men, of and for each Ward within *London*, and the Liberties, calling to their assistance two or more of the Sub-committee, usually sitting at *Salters-Hall* in *Bread-streete*, being Freemen of the City of *London*, and of the same Ward, if there be any such therein, and some other able and well affected persons of each Ward, and the greater part of them, and the said other Sub-committees within their severall Limits and Divisions, or any seven or more of them respectively, shall have full power and authority, to asseesse or Tax, or nominate asseessors, to set a Rate and Tax upon each person and Family as aforesaid, to wit, what Rate, Proportion,



portion, or summe of Money, each person or him or her selfe, or for themselves and Families respectively, shall pay and contribute for the value of one Meale in the Week, as aforesaid; And shall appoint convenient places and fit persons within each Parish or Precinct respectively, where, and to whom the said Monies shall be respectively payd, by the persons so assessed, and to nominate and appoint Collectors, or Receivers, to call for, and attend the receipt of the said monies so assessed, who are to pay over the same upon each Thursday weekly, at two of the Clock in the afternoon, to the respective Treasurers hereafter mentioned, viz. The Collectors for the said City of London, and the Liberties, to *John Langham* Alderman appointed Treasurer by the Common-Councell of the City of London who shall & may upon occasion exchange and alter the same Officer, and appoint such other fit Officer, as shall to them seem meete. The Collectors for the Hamlets of the Tower of London, and the Liberties thereof, to Mr. *Abraham Corfells*, one of the Sub-committee there, which usually meets at *Savage-house* at Tower-hill, and who is appointed to be their Treasurer; The Collectors for the said City of Westminster, and Liberties thereof, and other the Liberties, Parishes, and Places within that Division, to Mr. *Edward Carter*, one of the Sub-committee for that part which usually meete and sit at the *Savoy* in the Strand, and appointed to be their Treasurer; The Collectors for the Borough of Southwarke, and other the Liberties and Places within the Division, to Mr. *Richard Walker*, one of the Sub-Committee there, which usually meet at the Vestry House in *Olaves* Parish and who is appointed to be their Treasurer; And in default of such persons appointed Treasurers aforesaid, then to such other Treasurers as shalbe severally for such purpose appointed, to wit, by the Common Councell of London for the said City, and Liberties, and by the other Sub-committees, or any seven of them for their Divisions respectively. which said respective Treasurers are hereby authorized to issue out the said Monies so gathered and received, as is hereafter mentioned, (viz. ) The Treasurer for the City of London, and the Liberties thereof, for recruiting of the Auxiliary Regiments already raised, raising and preparing of more Forces, buying of Armes and Ammunition, and for such other uses, as the

Common-Councell of the said City of *London*, or such persons as they from time to time shall appoint for that purpose, *being approved of by both Houses of Parliament*, shall thinke fit, to direct and appoint; And the Treasurers for the other parts shall issue their Monies respectively for recruiting their Auxiliary Regiments, raysing and preparing of more Forces, and Executing the Ordinances of the *Militia*, within their respective Precincts according to such Warrants and Directions as shall be given by the said Sub-Committees for the uses aforesaid, by Order to be made at the respective usuall places of meeting of the said Sub-Committees respectively, of whom seven at least are then and there to bee present, and subscribe the same Order. And if any person or persons Assessed, or to be Assessed for the Weekly payment aforesaid shall alter demand thereof made of the person so Assessed, or at his or their usuall places of Habitation or Abode, faile in payment thereof; That then it shall and may be lawfull to and for the said Collectors, and every of them respectively, calling to their Assistance any of the Trained Bands, Voluntiers, Constables, or others, who are hereby enjoyned to assist upon all Occasions, being required, to Levy double the summe or summes so assessed, together with the necessary Charges which shall be expended in the Collecting thereof, by way of Distresse, upon his or their goods and Chattels, and shall and may sell the same Distresse or Distresses for the Services aforesaid, and the over-plus to be returned to the Owner of the Distresse taken. And if no sufficient Distresses can be found within the said City of *London*, or the Liberties, whereby the Monies assessed upon the persons there may be levied; Then upon Certificate thereof made by the said Sub-Committees for the City and Liberties, or any seven of them, being Free-men of the said City of *London*, to the Lord Major of the said City, hee is forthwith to grant his Warrant for the apprehension of the said person and persons, and for his and their Commitment to safe Custody, without bayle or Mainprize, wheresoever hee or they are or shall be found, within Liberties or without, unlesse he shall see just cause to the contrary. And in like case, if no sufficient Distresses can be found within the other respective Divisions before-mentioned, whereupon the summes assessed upon the persons there  
may



may be levied ; Then upon Certificate to be made in that behalfe to the respective Sub-Committees of those Divisions, the said Committee, or any seven of them, by Order to be made at their usuall place of meeting, shall and may commit such person or persons to safe custody, without bayle or Mainprize, wheresoever he or they shall be found, whether within the said respective Divisions or without; the said persons so to be committed, as aforesaid, to continue in prison untill they have fully satisfied their respective Assessements.

And be it further Ordered and Ordained, That the over or under-rating of any person or persons, or their Families, within the said City of *London*, or any part thereof, shall and may upon complaint thereof be examined and rectified by the Common-Councell of the said City, or any Committee by them for that purpose to be appointed, or the greater part of such Committee. And if any person or persons, within any the said other Divisions, be over-rated in the said Assessements, or under-rated, the same shall upon complaint thereof be rectified by the said Sub-Committees of that Division respectively, or any seven of them, according to their discretions ; And if any Assessors, Collectors, or Constables, within the said City of *London*, or the Liberties, shall refuse the said service, or prove negligent or faulty therein, upon certificate thereof made by the said Sub-Committee of *Salters-Hall*, or any seven of them, being Free-men of the said City of *London*, to the Lord Major of the said City, he is forthwith to grant his warrant for Commitment of such persons to prison, unlesse he shall see just cause to the contrary. And like power upon such occasion the said other sub-Committees may exercise within their limits respectively, or upon such neglect or default as aforesaid, the common-Councell, or whom they shall appoint for *London* and the liberties, and the sub-Committees of any seven of them within their severall Divisions, may impose a fine upon the offenders, not exceeding the summe of Ten Pounds for every offence, the said Fine to be levied by Distresse, and sale of the offenders goods, and the monies to be employed for the service aforesaid; And it is Ordained, That the said Treasurers respectively shall each of them keep a Register-book of the summes received, and paid out by them, that so they may give a just and per-

perfect Accompt thereof, unto the said Sub-Committees, to whom they respectively belong, when they shall be by them required which shall be once Monthly at least; And the said Treasurer for London, and the Liberties, shall also concerning the Premises be accomptable to the Common Councill for the said City, or such Committee as they shall thereto appoint, when he shall at any time be thereunto required; And for the better encouragement of the said Collectors and Treasurers, it is Ordained, that five pence in the Pound shall be allowed for every sum of money, which shall be Collected and paid to the said Treasurers according to this Ordinance, whereof foure pence shall be to the Collectors, and one penny to the Treasurer.

And be it lastly by the said Lords and Commons further Ordained, That all and every the respective Committees, Assessors, Treasurers and Collectors of the respective Divisions aforesaid, and all that shall assist them in the premises, shall be by power of Parliament protected and saved harmlesse, both for what, according to the true meaning of the premises, they have done and shall do therein for time to come.

Provided, That this Ordinance extend not to such persons as receive Almes, nor shall be of longer continuance then for the space of six Moneths, to begin from Tuesday next after the date hereof.

Provided also, That this Ordinance shall not extend to the using, of any compullary power over any the Members of either House of Parliament, or any Peer, or any Assistant of the House of Peers, or any Attendant on either house of Parliament, or any member of the Assembly of Divines, or to give power to settle any other Rates upon any of them touching the premises, then what they respectively will tax themselves at or agree unto, any thing in this present Ordinance contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

**FINIS.**